

QUEEN ELIZABETH II



Elizabeth Alexandra Mary (called "Lilibet" by her close family) is Queen of the UK and the other Commonwealth realms, was born on April 21, 1926 in London as the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York, late King George VI and Elizabeth Bowes Lyon. She's the longest-reigning monarch in British history.



Princess and her sister Anne were educated at home. They took mathematics, history, French and art lessons. She began to undertake public duties during the Second World War, serving in the Auxiliary Territorial Service. The queen remains the only female member of the royal family to have entered the armed forces.



Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain is currently the longest-reigning monarch in British history. She was crowned in 1953 and celebrated her Sapphire Jubilee in 2017, an event which commemorated 65 years on the throne. Her father acceded to the throne on the abdication of his brother King Edward VIII in 1936, from which time she was the heir presumptive.



Elizabeth met her future husband, Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark, in 1934. They are second cousins once removed through King Christian IX of Denmark and third cousins through Queen Victoria. Elizabeth and Philip were married on 20 November 1947 at Westminster Abbey. Because Britain had not yet completely recovered from the devastation of the war, Elizabeth required ration coupons to buy the material for her gown, which was designed by Norman Hartnell.



Prince Charles is, of course, the eldest son of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, 1984. Charles married Lady Diana Spencer in 1981 and they had two children of their own, Prince William in 1982 and Prince Harry in 1984. Charles' sister, Princess Anne, 1950. She married Captain Mark Phillips, she had two children, Peter Phillips and Zara Tindall. Anne got remarried to Timothy Laurence. Next to Charles, Prince Andrew, 1960. He wed Sarah Ferguson and the pair later welcomed two daughters, Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie. Prince Edward, who some may call the forgotten royal. He and his wife welcomed their daughter, Lady Louise Windsor, in 2003, and their son, James, Viscount Severn, in 2007. She has 7 great-grandchildren : Savannah Phillips, Isla Phillips, Prince George, Mia Tindle, Princess Charlotte, Prince Louis, Lena Tindall.



Queen Elizabeth II lives in Buckingham Palace in London. She also has other residences. Her favourite home is Balmoral Castle in Scotland where she spends Christmas and weekends. Windsor Castle is also Queen Elizabeth II house.



- **Interesting facts:**

She even invented a new breed of dog when her corgi mated with a dachshund belonging to her sister, Princess Margaret, creating the “dorgi”.

Queen Elizabeth II has always been known for wearing bold colours. The queen sports the bright hues to ensure that members of the public stand a chance of seeing her through the crowds.

The Queen can drive without a license, because they’re all actually issued in her name in the United Kingdom, according to [Express](#). On her over 250 international visits to over 100 countries, she’s never needed a passport, for the same reason. Oh, and she’s exempt from [taxes](#), but still voluntarily pays income and capital gains taxes.



She's the most well-traveled monarch ever.

Queen Elizabeth certainly could have sat around Buckingham Palace and left the goodwill tours to other dignitaries, but instead, she embarked on an ambitious schedule of royal tours and state visits. Even as she got older, the Queen continued visiting foreign countries. During her reign, the Queen has visited an impressive 116 countries.



She made sure females were treated equally

Prior to Queen Elizabeth's reign, an older female girl would lose her place in the line of succession if a younger male heir was born. But the Succession to the Crown Act 2013 changed all that. With the new rule instituted by Queen Elizabeth II, female offspring had as much right to the throne as their brothers.

That's why Princess Charlotte, the daughter of Prince William, is still ahead of her little brother Prince Louis in the line of succession



The Queens Role

Although the Queen is no longer responsible for governing the country, she carries out a great many important tasks on behalf of the nation.

As Head of State, the Queen goes on official State visits abroad. She also invites other world leaders to come to the United Kingdom.

The Queen is also the Head of the Armed Forces. She is the only person who can declare when the country is at war and when war is over, although she must take advice from her government first.

The Queen is Head of the Church of England - a position that all British monarchs have held since it was founded by Henry VIII in the 1530s. The Queen appoints archbishops and bishops on the advice of the Prime Minister. The spiritual leader of the Church of England is the Archbishop of Canterbury.



Government Duties:

Every day red boxes are delivered to the Queen's desk full of documents and reports from the government ministers and Commonwealth officials. They must all be read and, if necessary, signed by the Queen.

Represents the Nation The Queen represents the nation at times of great celebration or sorrow. One example of this is Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph monument in Whitehall. The Queen lays a wreath there each year to honour the members of the armed forces who have died fighting for their country.

At least three Royal Garden Parties are held at Buckingham Palace each year and about 8,000 guests attend each one.

Visits Along side her other duties the Queen spends a huge amount of time travelling around the country visiting hospitals, schools, factories and other places

